

more in the future. On behalf of all Minnesotans, I thank Ka Joog for its public service.

HONORING THERESA M.
DESFOSSES ON BEING INDUCTED
INTO THE RV/MANUFACTURED
HOUSING HALL OF FAME

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Theresa M. Desfosses of Scarborough, Maine on being inducted into the RV/Manufactured Housing Hall of Fame.

In August 2013, Theresa Desfosses was inducted into the RV/Manufactured Housing (RV/MH) Hall of Fame, becoming only the fifth member from New England, one of only a few women, and the first Mainer to receive the honor. Inducting its first class in 1972, the RV/MH Hall of Fame was established by the RV/MH Heritage Foundation to recognize individuals that have made a significant, positive impact on the manufactured housing industry.

Throughout her career, Theresa has helped grow and advance the manufactured housing industry on the national and state levels. On the national level, she most recently served on the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee, advising the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development on manufactured housing regulations and safety standards. On the state level, Theresa was instrumental in establishing the Manufactured Housing Association of Maine as well as Maine's Manufactured Housing Board, serving on its Board of Directors for many years.

Theresa has not only helped transform the manufactured housing industry, but has also had a direct impact on the lives of her fellow Mainers. As owner of State Manufactured Homes, a third-generation family business, Theresa has provided affordable, accessible homes to more than 700 Maine families. Her tireless work ethic and commitment to Maine have made our state a better place to live.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in recognizing the extraordinary accomplishments of Theresa M. Desfosses and congratulating her on being inducted into the RV/MH Hall of Fame.

IN MEMORY OF JOANN KOOBATIAN

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Foothill High School's choir teacher, JoAnn Koobatian, who sadly passed away on Friday, October 18 after an eight-year battle with a rare form of cancer. She was just 47.

JoAnn, an East Bay native, joined the faculty at Pleasanton's Foothill High School in 1996. She was vital to rebuilding its choir program, which had disappeared from the school's curriculum in the 1980s.

Since reviving the choir program, JoAnn's ability to connect with students made it ex-

tremely popular. Because of her dedication and passion for teaching music, she was named Pleasanton's Teacher of the Year for 2011.

Even while battling cancer for many years, JoAnn continued doing what she loved—teaching—and she always encouraged the best from her students.

Her students showed their love and devotion for their beloved teacher by hosting many local fundraisers to help JoAnn and her family pay for her medical expenses. JoAnn's legacy will continue in the lives of the students she touched.

I want to express my deepest condolences to JoAnn's husband Richard and daughter Amanda. JoAnn will be missed dearly. Her life is truly an inspiration to students, faculty, and the entire Foothill community.

CONGRATULATING BRAD WIL-
LIAMS ON HIS SELECTION AS
CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL
APARTMENT ASSOCIATION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Brad Williams of Dallas, Texas, on his upcoming installation as chairman of the board of directors for the National Apartment Association (NAA), which will take place on November 8 in Dallas.

Mr. Williams and his work exemplify the spirit of business in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. He has forty years of experience in property management and, with Lincoln Property Company, manages 50,000 rental units in both Texas and the Midwest. He also has a history of leadership in the rental housing industry. He is a past president of the Apartment Association of Greater Dallas and of the Texas Apartment Association (TAA). He has chaired the Texas and National Legislative Committees; and, for the last three years, he has served as chairman of the NAA's Political Action Committee (NAAPAC). Mr. Williams has also worked as Secretary on the Executive Committee for the NAA.

Rental housing is a crucial and growing industry in Dallas, where almost half of the city's people live in apartments. Many of these buildings are new and bring construction, innovation, and an economic boost to the area. Nationwide, 35 million people reside in apartments which contribute \$1.1 trillion and 26 million jobs to the economy—from construction and skilled trades to leasing, operations, management, and even to the various businesses that surround residential buildings. To help ensure that rental housing is of a quality worthy of the public, the NAA makes it its mission "to serve the interests of multifamily housing owners, managers, developers and suppliers and maintain a high level of professionalism in the multifamily housing industry to better serve the rental housing needs of the public." Founded in 1939, the NAA today consists of 170 local and state affiliates, 63,000 members, and 6.8 million homes.

Mr. Williams is a native of Dallas, where he now lives with his wife, Ginny. He is a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School and received a degree in History from the University

of Texas. He earned his Certificate of Real Estate from Southern Methodist University and his designation as a Certified Property Manager from the Institute of Real Estate Management.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Chairman-elect Brad Williams and wishing him well as he guides the National Apartment Association through the upcoming year.

IN HONOR OF BISHOP DONALD
HILLIARD, JR.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr. on his 30th Pastoral Anniversary. As Senior Pastor at Cathedral International, Dr. Hilliard continues to provide outstanding spiritual leadership to the Perth Amboy, Asbury Park and Plainfield communities.

Dr. Hilliard received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Eastern College, Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and Doctor of Ministry degree from the United Theological Seminary. He was ordained in 1978 by the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. and was consecrated a bishop in 1995. Dr. Hilliard became the Senior Pastor of Cathedral International at the age of 26.

Under Dr. Hilliard's leadership, the membership of Cathedral International has grown from 125 congregants in 1983 to 6,000 members today. The church is also expected to expand to a fourth location in Cranbury. In addition to leading Cathedral International, Dr. Hilliard is also the Founder and Presiding Bishop of the Covenant Ecumenical Fellowship and Cathedral Assemblies, Inc. and mentors other pastors. He founded and currently serves as CEO of the Cathedral Community Development Corporation, which provides resources and services to the community. He is also a member of many other religious and community organizations, including the NAACP.

Over the years, Dr. Hilliard has been recognized by various organizations for his contributions to the church and community. He has received the New York City Council of Churches' Clergy of the Year Award, the Perth Amboy Chamber of Commerce Executive of the Year Award and the National Conference for Community and Justice Humanitarian Award, among several others.

Dr. Hilliard is the son of Alease Hilliard-Chapman and the late Donald Hilliard, Sr. He is married to Pastor Phyllis Thompson-Hilliard and together they have three daughters.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating the 30th Pastoral Anniversary of Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr. His leadership, service and dedication to the church and community are truly deserving of this body's recognition.